

CLAIMS:

1. A method of scanning a document, comprising the steps of:
recording, at a scanner, the document to yield digital image data;
entering destination information relating to a destination computer to which the digital image data is desired to be sent;
sending the image data to the destination computer; and
the destination computer initiating an image acquisition program in response to detecting the image data at the destination port.
2. The method of **claim 1**, the entering step further comprising entering destination file information relating to a destination file in the destination computer to which the digital image data is desired to be sent.
3. The method of **claim 1**, the sending step having no intermediate computer associated therewith.
4. The method of **claim 1**, wherein the destination computer performs no polling through a port to detect image data.
5. The method of **claim 1**, the entering step occurring at the scanner.
6. The method of **claim 1**, further comprising the step of the destination computer initiating an image management program in response to detecting the image data at the destination port.
7. The method of **claim 1**, wherein the image acquisition program emulates functions of a digital camera.

8. The method of **claim 1**, further comprising the step of allowing image data to be sent to the target location if a network address associated with the scanner is on a list of approved network addresses associated with the destination computer.

9. The method of **claim 8**, further comprising the step of indicating that a network address associated with the scanner is not on a list of approved network addresses associated with the destination computer.

10. A driver for use in a computer adapted to accept image data over a network, the computer comprising a port and means for directing image data received at the port to a target location in memory, the driver comprising:

means for polling the target location in memory; and

means for initiating an image acquisition program in response to detecting image data in the target location.

11. The driver of **claim 10**, wherein the image acquisition program is Microsoft® Windows™ Image Acquisition Scanner and Camera Wizard, and the activating means sends an "image scanned event" signal.

12. The driver of **claim 10**, wherein the activating means activates a further application in response to detecting image data in the target location.

13. The driver of **claim 10**, further comprising a list of network addresses of approved external devices.

14. The driver of **claim 13**, further comprising means for comparing a network address received at the port to the list of approved network addresses.

15. The driver of **claim 14**, further comprising means for allowing image data to be sent to the target location if the network address received at the port is on the list of approved network addresses.

16. The driver of **claim 14**, further comprising means for indicating that a network address received at the port is not on the list of approved network addresses.